



## Youth Program Services at RefugeeOne

Of the 15 million refugees in the world, nearly half are children. Many have witnessed unspeakable horrors, lost loved ones, and have had to live in abject poverty. Unfamiliar with US culture and carrying the trauma they have experienced in their countries of birth, refugee youth are especially vulnerable when they first arrive in the United States.

The goal of RefugeeOne's Youth Program is to ease the transition for refugee children from unstable environments of conflict to their new homes in Chicago and to inspire them to dream again through the exploration of new possibilities.

The Youth Program is built on three components:

### Services for Youth:

- After school center with academic tutoring and enrichment activities
- In-home, one-on-one tutoring
- Field trips and parties for special events
- Summer Learning Program
- Behavioral Health Services- group and individual therapy

### Services for Parents:

- Orientation on US education system
- School registration and mediation
- Parenting classes and orientations

### Services for Schools:

- In-service training on the refugee experience
- Cultural orientation workshops
- Interpretation/translation and mediation

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## In-Home Tutoring Program

An integral part of the RefugeeOne Youth Program, our in-home tutoring program matches volunteer tutors with refugee students. Our in-home tutors commit to tutoring a refugee student every week for a minimum of 6 months, although we highly encourage tutors to extend their initial commitment and do have tutors who have been working with their student for 2 or more years.

As an in-home tutor, you will be matched with a refugee student in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Our kids come from all over the world, with varied academic backgrounds and English ability. We have children who have never attended school before and children who went to high-quality schools; however, regardless of their specific background, most refugee students do not speak English when they arrive. Although our kids do get some English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) services at school, the services are not nearly comprehensive enough to ensure that a refugee student is truly getting the support they need. Therefore, we rely heavily upon you—our in-home tutors—to help your refugee student build the necessary language and academic skills to succeed in school and in life.

### More than a Tutor...

Being an in-home tutor for the RefugeeOne Youth Program is about more than just teaching English and helping your student succeed academically. Our goal is not only for you to English and basic academic skills, but also to help them adapt to the challenges of everyday life in America. Our hope is that you will offer not only your language skills and cultural knowledge, but also your friendship.